

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Voice control system for a consumer electronics device with one or more external loudspeakers, using a microphone array, the voice control system comprising

a plurality of microphones for converting a detected signal to electrical signals, wherein one or more microphones are integrated in said external loudspeakers;

a central signal processing unit being connected to the plurality of microphones, the signal processing unit scaling or processing the electrical signals received from the plurality of microphones according to the respective position of the microphones relative to the user, the respective position being given by different propagation delays; and

a central speech recognition unit for converting the electrical signals from said signal processing unit into operational commands for the consumer electronics device.

2. (Previously amended) System according to Claim 1, wherein the one or more appliances are connected via a bi-directional network.

3. (Previously amended) System according to Claim 2, wherein the bi-directional network is based on an IEEE 1394 bus.

4. (Previously amended) System according to Claim 1, wherein the consumer electronics device is a television set or a video recorder.

5. (Previously Added) System according to claim 1, wherein all microphones are connected to the same signal processing unit.

6. (Previously Added) System according to claim 1, wherein the one or more external loudspeakers are connected via a radio network.